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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached "Replacement Sheet(s)" of drawings include(s) changes to Figure(s) 9-11. The attached "Replacement Sheet(s)," which include(s) Figure(s) 9-11, replace(s) the original sheet(s) including Figure(s) 9-11.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet(s)

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5-6 and 24 are now pending in the application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection(s) in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

DRAWINGS

The drawings stand objected to for certain informalities. Applicant(s) have attached revised drawings for the Examiner's approval. In the "Replacement Sheet(s)" Figures 9-11 have been designated by the legend --Prior Art--.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Kyoichi (JP No. 06227381). This rejection is respectfully traversed. New Claim 24 has been added to reinstate the subject matter of Claim 4 (previously cancelled). Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

With regard to the Kyoichi reference, that reference teaches using resistance welding to fuse metals in a fashion that the Examiner has construed as a "plastic flow." In this regard, the Examiner is reading the "nickel sleeve" described in the Kyoichi reference as serving the function of a caulking member. However, in contrast to the Kyoichi teaching, the Applicants' invention effects a plastic flow of the caulking member by applying stress from the outside of the caulking member. Applicants are providing herewith dictionary definitions of "welding" and "plastic flow" for the Examiner's consideration.

As shown in the dictionary definitions of “welding” and “plastic flow”, which was previously submitted, plastic flow does not occur in welding. In welding, a flow is generated by melting due to heat. On the other hand, in plastic flow, a flow occurs after the applied stress reaches a critical value, and no heat is applied. Hence, the present invention is clearly distinguished from Kyoichi (JP No. 06227381) in view of welding, and is not anticipated by Kyoichi.

The Examiner stated that “[i]t is believed that welding also occurs by applying stress from outside” in the Advisory Action. However, as mentioned above, stress is not generally applied during welding.

As an exception, in spot welding, a current is applied to a junction to produce heat, and the junction is welded by applying pressure (see an attached figure). In this case the pressure is applied to achieve a complete welding by heating evenly and to make a resistance value constant by reducing a contact resistance (<http://www.mech.eng.himeji.-tech.ac.jp/kikai/center/jisshuu/welding.html>). Thus plastic flow does not generally occur due to the pressure. At least, Kyoichi and the dictionary definitions fail to disclose or suggest the generation of plastic flow during welding. The Examiner’s above recognition appears to be incorrect. Hence, the present invention is distinguished from Kyoichi.

Furthermore, the present invention aims to solve the problem of the drop-off of welded members due to weak connection intensity, as welded members are only connected by a point contact during welding (especially during the spot welding). According to the present invention, in order to solve the problem, multipoint contacts are provided by plastic deformation.

Accordingly, in order to more fully distinguish the Applicants' invention from Kyoichi, Claim 1 has been amended to recite that plastic flow of a caulking member is performed by applying stress from the outside of the caulking member. It is respectfully submitted that Claim 1 now fully distinguishes over the art of record.

Turning now to Applicants' independent Claim 5, the issue here appears to be with regard to the term "integrally formed." The Examiner appears to take the position that Kyoichi teaches integral formation because (according to the Examiner's interpretation) once the Kyoichi external lead and lead wire are welded together they are then "integrally formed and act as one wire."

In order to obviate this rejection and more fully distinguish the Applicants' invention, Claim 5 has been amended to recite that "integrally formed" is from a continuous and common piece of material. It is respectfully submitted that this Amendment fully distinguishes the Applicants' invention from the Kyoichi reference.

Finally, with regard to Claim 4 (now cancelled), the Examiner has indicated that the subject matter of Claim 4 can be reinstated by a subsequent Amendment that presents the subject matter as a new claim with a new claim number. Accordingly, Applicants have added new claim 24 to this application.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office

Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: Dec. 24, 2005

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McGRAW-HILL DICTIONARY OF SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL TERMS

**Sixth
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On the cover: Representation of a fullerene molecule with a noble gas atom trapped inside. At the Permian-Triassic sedimentary boundary the noble gases helium and argon have been found trapped inside fullerenes. They exhibit isotope ratios quite similar to those found in meteorites, suggesting that a fireball meteorite or asteroid exploded when it hit the Earth, causing major changes in the environment. (Image copyright © Dr. Luann Becker. Reproduced with permission.)

Over the six editions of the Dictionary, material has been drawn from the following references: G. M. Garrity et al., *Taxonomic Outline of the Prokaryotes*, Release 2, Springer-Verlag, January 2002; D. W. Linzey, *Vertebrate Biology*, McGraw-Hill, 2001; J. A. Pechenik, *Biology of the Invertebrates*, 4th ed., McGraw-Hill, 2000; U.S. Air Force Glossary of Standardized Terms, AF Manual 11-1, vol. 1, 1972; F. Casey, ed., *Compilation of Terms in Information Sciences Technology*, Federal Council for Science and Technology, 1970; *Communications-Electronics Terminology*, AF Manual 11-1, vol. 3, 1970; P. W. Thrush, comp. and ed., *A Dictionary of Mining, Mineral, and Related Terms*, Bureau of Mines, 1968; A DOD Glossary of Mapping, Charting and Geodetic Terms, Department of Defense, 1967; J. M. Gilliland, *Solar-Terrestrial Physics: A Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations*, Royal Aircraft Establishment Technical Report 67158, 1967; W. H. Allen, ed., *Dictionary of Technical Terms for Aerospace Use*, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, 1965; *Glossary of Stinfo Terminology*, Office of Aerospace Research, U.S. Air Force, 1963; *Naval Dictionary of Electronic, Technical, and Imperative Terms*, Bureau of Naval Personnel, 1962; R. E. Huschke, *Glossary of Meteorology*, American Meteorological Society, 1959; *ADP Glossary*, Department of the Navy, NAVSO P-3097; *Glossary of Air Traffic Control Terms*, Federal Aviation Agency; *A Glossary of Range Terminology*, White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico, National Bureau of Standards, AD 467-424; *Nuclear Terms: A Glossary*, 2d ed., Atomic Energy Commission.

**McGRAW-HILL DICTIONARY OF SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL TERMS,
Sixth Edition**

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of solvent from filter paper, leaving the solute in a ring (circular) shape; used for qualitative analysis of very small samples. { 'vis 'rɪŋ ,əv-ən }

Weizäcker-Williams method [QUANT MECH] A method of calculating the bremsstrahlung emitted when two particles, whose relative kinetic energies are much larger than their rest energies, collide; in the rest frame of one of the particles, the field of the other is equivalent to a set of virtual photons, and Compton scattering of these photons by the particle at rest is computed. { 'vɪt,sek-ər 'wɪl-yəms ,meth-əd }

Weizsäcker's theory [ASTRON] A theory of the origin of the solar system; it hypothesizes primeval turbulent eddies which become permanent and self-gravitating; Weizsäcker does not discuss the origin of the gas clouds. { 'vɪt,sek-ərz ,thē-ə-rē }

welcome page See home page. { 'wel-kəm 'pæj }

weld [MET] A union made between two metals by welding. { 'weld }

weldability [MET] Suitability of a metal to be welded under specified conditions. { ,wel-də'bɪl-əd-ē }

weld bead [MET] A deposit of filler metal from a single welding pass. Also known as bead. { 'weld ,bēd }

weldbonding [MET] A process for joining metals in which adhesive, typically an epoxy paste, is applied to the parts, which are then clamped together, spot-welded, and put into an oven (250°F, or 121°C, for 1 hour) to cure the adhesive. { 'weld ,bænd-ɪŋ }

weld decay [MET] Intercrystalline corrosion of austenitic stainless steels near welded areas; caused by chromium carbide precipitation along grain boundaries of alloy subject to prolonged heating in the temperature range 400–850°C. { 'weld dɪ,kə }

weld delay time [MET] Delay of the time current in spot, seam, or projection welding with respect to starting the forge delay timer used to synchronize pressure and heat. { 'weld dɪ'la ,tɪm }

welded tuff [PETR] A pyroclastic deposit hardened by the action of heat, pressure from overlying material, and hot gases. Also known as tuff lava. { 'wel-dəd 'tʌf }

welder [MET] 1. A machine used in welding. Also known as welding machine. 2. A person who performs a welding operation. { 'wel-dər }

weld gage [ENG] A device used to check the shape and size of welds. { 'weld ,gæj }

welding [GEOL] Consolidation of sediments by pressure; water is squeezed out and cohering particles are brought within the limits of mutual molecular attraction. [MET] Joining two metals by applying heat to melt and fuse them, with or without filler metal. { 'weld-ɪŋ }

welding current [ELEC] The current that flows through a circuit while a weld is being made. { 'weld-ɪŋ ,kə-rənt }

welding cycle [MET] The complete sequence of events involved in making a resistance weld. { 'weld-ɪŋ ,sɪ-kəl }

welding electrode [MET] 1. In arc welding, the current-carrying rod or rods used to strike an arc between rod and work. 2. In resistance welding, the component of a machine through which current and pressure are applied to the work. { 'weld-ɪŋ ɪ,lek-trəd }

welding force See electrode force. { 'weld-ɪŋ ,fɔrs }

welding generator [ELEC] A generator used for supplying the welding current. { 'weld-ɪŋ ,jen-ə-rəd-ər }

welding ground See work lead. { 'weld-ɪŋ ,graʊnd }

welding machine See welder. { 'weld-ɪŋ mə,ʃɪn }

welding rod [MET] Filler metal in the form of a rod or heavy wire. { 'weld-ɪŋ ,rəd }

welding schedule [MET] A record of all welding machine settings plus identification of the machine needed to produce a weld for a given material of a given size and finish. { 'weld-ɪŋ ,skej-əl }

welding sequence [MET] The order for welding component parts of a weldment or structure. { 'weld-ɪŋ ,sɛ-kwəns }

welding stress [MET] Residual stress resulting from localized heating and cooling during welding. { 'weld-ɪŋ ,stress }

welding tip [ENG] A replaceable nozzle for a gas torch used in welding. [MET] An electrode used in spot or projection welding. { 'weld-ɪŋ ,tɪp }

welding torch [ENG] A gas-mixing and burning tool for the welding of metal. { 'weld-ɪŋ ,tɔrʃ }

welding transformer [ELEC] A high-current, low-voltage

power transformer used to supply current for welding. { 'weld-ɪŋ tranz,fɔr-mər }

weld interval [MET] The total heat and cool times for making one multiple-impulse weld. { 'weld ,ɪn-tər-vəl }

weld-interval timer [ENG] A device used to control weld interval. { 'weld ,ɪn-tər-vəl ,tɪm-ər }

weld line [ENG] See flow line. [MET] The junction of the weld metal and base metal, or the junction of base-metal parts when filler metal is not used. { 'weld ,lɪn }

weld mark See flow line. { 'weld ,mɑrk }

weldment [ENG] An assembly or structure whose component parts are joined by welding. { 'weld-mənt }

weld metal [MET] The metal constituting the fused zone in spot, seam, or projection welding. { 'weld ,med-əl }

weld time [MET] The time that the welding current is applied to the work in single-impulse and flash welding. { 'weld ,tɪm }

weld zone [MET] The region of a weld that includes both the weld metal and the heat-affected zone. { 'weld ,zɒn }

Welge method [PETRO ENG] A method of calculation of the anticipated oil-recovery performance of a gas-cap-drive oil reservoir. { 'wel-gē ,meth-əd }

well [BUILD] An open shaft in a building, extending vertically through floors to accommodate stairs or an elevator. [ENG] A hole dug into the earth to reach a supply of water, oil, brine, or gas. { 'wel }

wellbore See borehole. { 'wel,bɔr }

wellbore hydraulics [PETRO ENG] A branch of oil production engineering that deals with the motion of fluids (oil, gas, or water) in wellbore tubing or casing, or the annulus between tubing and casing. { 'wel,bɔr hɪ'drɔ-lɪks }

welcome page See home page. { 'wel-kəm ,pæj }

well completion [PETRO ENG] The final sealing off of a drilled well (after drilling apparatus is removed from the borehole) with valving, safety, and flow-control devices. { 'wel ,kəm,plɪ-shən }

well conditioning [PETRO ENG] 1. Preparation of a well for sampling procedures by control of production rate and associated pressure drawdown. 2. Removal of accumulated scale, wax, mud, and sand from the inner surfaces of a wellbore, or breakage of water blocks to increase production of oil or gas. { 'wel ,kən,dɪʃ-ən-ɪŋ }

well core [ENG] A sample of rock penetrated in a well or other borehole obtained by use of a hollow bit that cuts a circular channel around a central column or core. { 'wel ,kɔr }

well-deck vessel [NAV ARCH] A merchant vessel having a sunken deck fitted between the forecabin and a long poop of continuous bridge house or raised quarterdeck. { 'wel ,dek ,ves-əl }

well drill [MECH ENG] A drill, usually a churn drill, used to drill water wells. { 'wel ,drɪl }

well-formed formula [MATH] A finite sequence or string of symbols that is grammatically or syntactically correct for a given set of grammatical or syntactical rules. { 'wel ,fɔrməd ,fɔr-myə-lə }

wellhead [CIV ENG] The top of a well. [HYD] The place where a stream emerges from the ground. { 'wel,hed }

wellhole [MIN ENG] 1. A large-diameter vertical hole used in quarries and opencast pits for taking heavy explosive charges in blasting. 2. The sump, or portion of a shaft below the place where skips are caged at the bottom of the shaft, in which water collects. { 'wel,hɒl }

well injectivity [PETRO ENG] The ability of an injection well (water or gas) to receive injected fluid; can be negatively influenced by formation plugging, borehole scale, or liquid blocking around the lower end of the borehole. { 'wel ,ɪn-ɪk-tɪv-ə-ti }

well logging [ENG] The technique of analyzing and recording the character of a formation penetrated by a drill hole in petroleum exploration and exploitation work. { 'wel ,lɒg-ɪŋ }

well-ordered set [MATH] A linearly ordered set where every subset has a least element. { 'wel ,ɔr-dəd 'set }

well-ordering principle [MATH] The proposition that every set can be endowed with an order so that it becomes a well-ordered set; this is equivalent to the axiom of choice. { 'wel ,ɔr-dər-ɪŋ 'prɪn-sə-pəl }

well performance [PETRO ENG] The measurement of a well's production of oil or gas as related to the well's anticipated

plasmoditrophoblast See syncytiotrophoblast. { 'plaz-mō-
trəf-ə-blast }

plasmodium [MICROBIO] The noncellular, multinucleate,
cell-like, ameboid, assimilative stage of the Myxomycetes.
{ 'plaz-mō-dē-əm }

plasmodroma [INV ZOO] A subphylum of the Protozoa,
including Mastigophora, Sarcodina, and Sporozoa, in some
taxonomic systems. { 'plaz-mā-drō-mā }

plasmogamy [INV ZOO] Fusion of protoplasts, without
nuclear fusion, to form a multinucleate mass; occurs in certain
protozoans. { 'plaz-māg-ə-mē }

plasmoid [PHYS] An isolated collection of electrons, ions,
and neutral particles which holds together for a duration many
times as long as the collision times between particles.
{ 'plaz-moid }

plasmolysis [PHYSIO] Shrinking of the cytoplasm away
from the cell wall due to exosmosis by immersion of a plant
cell in a solution of higher osmotic activity. { 'plaz-māl-ə-sēs }

plasmion [GEN] The cytoplasmic genetic system in eukary-
otes consisting primarily of mitochondrial deoxyribonucleic
acid (DNA) and chloroplast DNA. { 'plaz-mī-ən }
plasmion [SOLID STATE] A quantum
of a collective longitudinal wave in the electron gas of a
solid. { 'plaz-mī-ən }

plasmosome See nucleolus. { 'plaz-mə-sōm }

plasmotomy [INV ZOO] Subdivision of a plasmodium into
two or more parts. { 'plaz-mād-ə-mē }

plaster [MATER] A plastic mixture of various materials, such
as lime or gypsum, and water which sets to a hard, coherent
solid. { 'plas-tər }

plaster bat [GRAPHICS] Basic working surface on which
draw is turned or modeled. { 'plas-tər-bat }

plasterboard [MATER] A large, thin sheet of pulpboard,
paper, or felt bonded to a hardened gypsum plaster core and
used as a wall backing or as a substitute for plaster.
{ 'plas-tər-bōrd }

plaster coat [BUILD] A thin layer of plaster lining walls in
buildings. { 'plas-tər-kōt }

plaster conglomerate [GEOL] A conglomerate composed
entirely of boulders derived from a partially exhumed
plasterknock forming a wedgelike mass of its flank. { 'plas-
tər-kən-glām-ə-rat }

plaster ground [BUILD] A piece of wood used as a gage to
control the thickness of a plaster coat placed on a wall; usually
used around windows and doors and at the floor. { 'plas-tər-
grəʊnd }

plaster of paris [INORG CHEM] White powder consisting
essentially of the hemihydrate of calcium sulfate ($\text{CaSO}_4 \cdot \frac{1}{2}\text{H}_2\text{O}$ or $2\text{CaSO}_4 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$), produced by calcining gypsum until
partially dehydrated; forms with water a paste that quickly
sets and is used for casts and molds, building materials, and surgical
drainages. Also known as calcined gypsum. { 'plas-tər əv
pær-i-si }

plaster shooting [ENG] A surface blasting method used
when no rock drill is necessary or one is not available; consists
in placing a charge of gelignite, primed with safety fuse and
ignitor, in close contact with the rock or boulder and covering
completely with stiff damp clay. { 'plas-tər 'shūd-ɪŋ }

plastic [MATER] A polymeric material (usually organic) of
high molecular weight which can be shaped by flow; usually
refers to the final product with fillers, plasticizers, pigments,
and stabilizers included (versus the resin, the homogeneous
polymeric starting material); examples are polyvinyl chloride,
polyethylene, and urea-formaldehyde. [MECH] Displaying,
associated with, plasticity. { 'plas-tik }

plasticize [ENG] To soften a material by heating or knead-
ing. Also known as plastify. { 'plas-tə-kāt }

plastic ball [NUCLEO] A large gamma-ray detector used at
particle-beam accelerators, and consisting of about 1400 lead-
crystal elements for recording photons that completely surround
the point of collision. { 'plas-tik 'bɔl }

plastic bonding [ENG] The joining of plastics by heat, sol-
vent, adhesives, pressure, or radio frequency. { 'plas-tik
'bɒndɪŋ }

plastic bronze [MET] A copper alloy containing lead, usu-
ally to the order of 30%, of sufficient plasticity to make a
bearing. { 'plas-tik 'brānz }

plastic cement [MATER] A plastic material used to seal nar-
row openings in buildings. { 'plas-tik si'ment }

plastic clay [MATER] Fireclay which forms a moldable mass
when mixed with water. { 'plas-tik 'klā }

plastic collision [MECH] A collision in which one or both of
the colliding bodies suffers plastic deformation and mechanical
energy is dissipated. { 'plas-tik kə'liʒh-ən }

plastic deformation [MECH] Permanent change in shape or
size of a solid body without fracture resulting from the applica-
tion of sustained stress beyond the elastic limit. { 'plas-tik
'dē,fɔr'mā-shən }

plastic design See ultimate-load design. { 'plas-tik di'zɪn }

plastic dielectric [MATER] A plastic used in an application
in which its high resistance, dielectric strength, or other electri-
cal properties are important, such as for electrical insulation
or in a capacitor. { 'plas-tik ,di-ə'lek-trik }

plastic equilibrium [GEOL] State of stress within a soil mass
or a portion thereof that has been deformed to such an extent
that its ultimate shearing resistance is mobilized. { 'plas-tik
'ēkwə'lib-rē-əm }

plastic explosive See high-explosive plastic. { 'plas-tik ik's-
plɔ-siv }

plastic film [MATER] Film with thickness from 0.0015 to
0.006 inch (0.0038 to 0.015 centimeter); made from polyvinyl
chloride, polyethylene, polypropylene, polystyrene, Mylar, and
other resins; used for wrapping, sealing, garment waterproofing,
and coating wood, paper, or fabric. { 'plas-tik 'fɪlm }

plastic film capacitor [ELEC] A capacitor constructed by
stacking, or forming into a roll, alternate layers of foil and a
dielectric which consists of a plastic, such as polystyrene or
Mylar, either alone or as a laminate with paper. { 'plas-tik
'fɪlm kə'pas-əd-ər }

plastic flow [PHYS] Rheological phenomenon in which
flowing behavior of the material occurs after the applied stress
reaches a critical (yield) value, such as with putty. { 'plas-
tik 'flɔ }

plastic foam See expanded plastic. { 'plas-tik 'fɔm }

plasticity [MECH] The property of a solid body whereby it
undergoes a permanent change in shape or size when subjected
to a stress exceeding a particular value, called the yield value.
{ 'plas-tis-əd-ē }

plasticity index [GEOL] The percent difference between
moisture content of soil at the liquid and plastic limits.
{ 'plas-tis-əd-ē ,in-deks }

plasticize [ENG] To soften a material to make it plastic or
moldable by adding a plasticizer or by using heat. { 'plas-
tə-sɪz }

plasticizer See flexibilizer. { 'plas-tə,sɪz-ər }

plasticizing oil [MATER] Coal tar distillate or solvent naph-
thalene distilling in a wide range above 300°C; used with plastics
as a plasticizer. { 'plas-tə,sɪz-ɪŋ ,ɔɪl }

plasticlast [GEOL] An intraclast consisting of calcareous
mud that has been torn up while still soft. { 'plas-tə,klast }

plastic limit [GEOL] The water content of a sediment, such
as a soil, at the point of transition between the plastic and
semisolid states. { 'plas-tik 'lɪm-ət }

plasticorder [ENG] Laboratory device used to predict the
performance of a plastic material by measurement of tempera-
ture, viscosity, and shear-rate relationships. Also known as
plastigraph. { 'plas-tə,kɔrd-ər }

plasticoviscosity [MECH] Plasticity in which the rate of
deformation of a body subjected to stresses greater than the
yield stress is a linear function of the stress. { 'plas-tə-kō-
vi'skäs-əd-ē }

plastic paint [MATER] Paint composed of a plastic (such as
vinyl or nitrocellulose) in a solvent. { 'plas-tik ,pænt }

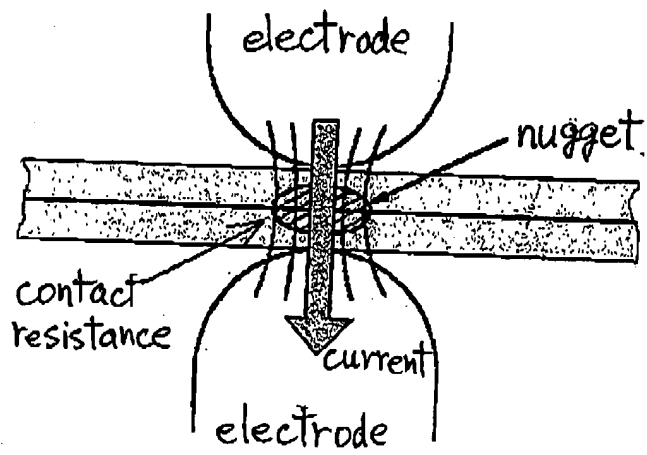
plastic plate [ELECTR] A plate of plastic dielectric material
used as a base for a semiconductor device. [GRAPHICS] A
direct printing plate formed on a plastic base. { 'plas-tik
'plæt }

plastic relief map [MAP] A topographic map printed on
plastic and then molded by heat and pressure into a three-
dimensional form to emphasize the relief. { 'plas-tik ri'leɪf
'map }

plastic semiconductor [MATER] An organic plastic resin
with a conjugated double-bond structure, such as polyacetylene;
the material is a semiconductor due to resistance of electrons
to transfer from one molecule to another. { 'plas-tik 'sem-i-
kən,dæk-tər }

plastic shading See hill shading. { 'plas-tik 'shād-ɪŋ }

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general spot welder